

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): MARK E. ANDERSON, ET AL.

Examiner: PRICE, RICHARD THOMAS JR.

Serial No.: 10/693,660

Group: 3643

Filed: 10/24/2003

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR  
CREATING A PATHWAY IN AN  
ANIMAL

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Madam/Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure specified under 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, your attention is directed to the patents/references listed below which may have some relation to the present invention. These references were cited in the European Patent Office Communication Pursuant To Article 96(2) EPC dated August 17, 2007 (NPL, Cite No. 1) for European Application No. 03 703 960.9-1265 submitted herewith.

US Patents:

Cite No. 1 US Patent No. 4,109,659 (D2 cited in European Search Report).

Cite No. 2 US Patent No. 4,493,711 (US Patent correlative to D4 cited in European Search Report).

Foreign Patent Documents:

Cite No. 1 German Patent No. 28 45 202, Anmeldstag: 17-10-78; Offenlegungstag: 30-4-80; discloses a diagnostic tool for early detection of cancer cells in a womb. The apparatus consists of a catheter (reference no. 3 in the figures), an inserting member (reference no. 1 in the figures) attached to the front end of the catheter 3), a balloon (reference no. 2 in the figures) attached to the front end of the inserting member 1, and a kind of syringe (reference no. 5 in the figures) attached to the rear end of the catheter 3. Upon inserting the diagnostic tool into the womb the balloon 2 is arranged

such that it is turned into a throughhole of the inserting member 1 communicating with the catheter 3. This can be seen in figure 1 and in more detail in figure 3. After the diagnostic tool has been inserted so far into the body that the front end of the same lies within the womb, the syringe 5 is actuated, resulting in that air is pressed into the catheter 3. As a result thereof the part of the balloon 2 located inside of the inserting member 1 is pressed out of the inserting member 1 and is inflated. This is shown in figure 2. The balloon 2 is inflated until it is completely in contact with the inner surface of the womb. It is now easy to check whether there are any cancer cells within the womb.

**Cite No. 2** WO84/00113, January 19, 1984. (The US Patent correlative to this D4 reference is 4,493,711).

It is noted that D1 is not included in this Information Disclosure Statement because it was previously submitted.

An Information Disclosure Statement (PTO/SB/08a) and the references cited therein are submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,

/Lawrence N. Ginsberg/

November 16, 2007

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